FACTS ABOUT FORT WAYNE

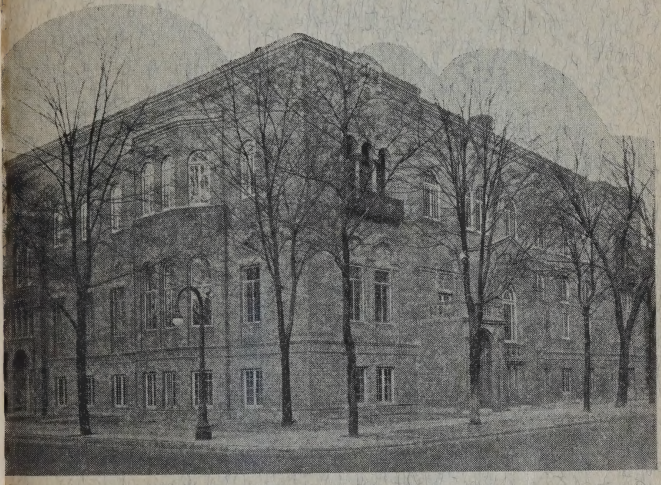
PUBLIC LIBRARY
FORT WAYNE & ALLEN CO., IND.

ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
3 1833 00467 3254
Gc 977.202 F77FAC
GREATER FORT WAYNE CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE (IND.)
FACTS ABOUT FORT WAYNE

FACTS ABOUT FORT WAYNE

✱

Prepared by



CHAMBER OF COMMERCE OF FORT WAYNE, INDIANA

✱

The above building is owned by the Chamber of Commerce of Fort Wayne, and is devoted exclusively to Chamber of Commerce activities

Allen County Public Library
900 Webster Street
PO Box 2270
Fort Wayne, IN 46801-2270

THE LIBRARY OF
CHRISTIAN WORKERS

FEB 20 1940

392458

Foreword

Fort Wayne, Indiana, is a city of diversified industries, with a population of approximately 123,500, located in the heart of the great industrial and agricultural Middle West.

Rich in historical background and endowed with numerous advantages and natural resources, Fort Wayne has enjoyed continuous growth and expansion ever since it was founded in 1794 by General "Mad Anthony" Wayne, famous early American military leader in whose honor the city is named.

Today, as it approaches, in 1940, its one hundredth anniversary as an incorporated city, Fort Wayne looks forward to a future of new and even greater growth and progress and to ever increasing eminence among important American communities.

This booklet of general information about Fort Wayne has been prepared by the Chamber of Commerce of Fort Wayne—an organization which has taken pride in having participated in, and having contributed something to, the progress and development of its city, and which stands today ready and anxious to do its share in the work of Fort Wayne that lies ahead.

Fort Wayne's History

Few cities in America have a more colorful history than has Fort Wayne. The present site of the city, because of its location "where three rivers meet", was, before the coming of the white men, an important center of early American Indian life. Chief Little Turtle described the place as "that glorious gate through which all the good words of our chiefs had to pass from the north to the south and from the east to the west." Later, toward the close of the seventeenth century, the adventurous French succeeded in establishing a post on the site and held it until 1760, when it was surrendered to the English as one of their prizes at the end of the French and Indian War. The English had little success in holding the post, losing it back to the Indians, under Chief Pontiac, in the year 1763.

Beginning at that time and continuing for a period of thirty years, the spot was the scene of intermittent strife, turmoil and bloodshed. Even after victory by the Colonies in the Revolutionary War, the site was still held by the savages, then with the aid of the English. President George Washington sent three armies westward to drive the Indians from the place and establish what he said would be "an important post for the Union." Two of the armies were defeated, but the third, under General "Mad Anthony" Wayne, overwhelmed the savages and their English abettors, and built a wooden stockade which became known as "Fort Wayne" and which was dedicated on October 22nd, 1794. The community which grew up around the fort was incorporated as a town in 1829 and as a city in 1840.

In 1850, after 10 years as a city, Fort Wayne was still a tiny community with a population of only 4,282. However, the 1850's and 1860's saw the coming of railroads to the Middle West, and Fort Wayne's importance was greatly increased during that period by the opening of railroads which later became the Pennsylvania, Wabash and Nickel Plate Systems.

The little city grew steadily in the following years; industrial and commercial activity expanded, and the population increased to 26,880 in 1880, to 45,115 in 1900, to 86,549 in 1920, to 114,949 in 1930, and to approximately 123,500 in 1938.

For the story of Fort Wayne since 1920, we quote the *Saturday Evening Post* of several years ago:

"Fort Wayne, Indiana, prior to 1920 was an average small city; a division point on the Pennsylvania's main line and a plant of the General Electric Company its mainstay. In 1920 the city went after a new plant of the International Harvester Company and won it in fairly warm competition with twenty-eight other cities. The Greater Fort Wayne Development Corporation was formed primarily to build homes for the Harvester Company's employees; but private enterprise took care of this, it was found, and the body turned its energies to attracting other industries. Fort Wayne began by making an industrial survey to determine just what the town had lacked and could support, questions for which no dependable answers existed. Sixty business men neglected their own for thirty days to make the audit. The resultant *esprit de corps* has changed the whole character of Fort Wayne; it is apparent even to the passerby from the windows of the Broadway Limited."

Fort Wayne's Diversified Industries

Fort Wayne is considered an ideal place in which to live and do business because its industries are greatly diversified, and the city therefore does not suffer the disadvantages which usually affect any community whose industries manufacture the same or allied products.

The advantages of industrial diversity are as numerous as they are obvious. In the first place, diversity is conducive to business stability, because the city as a whole is not directly dependent upon one particular industry, and therefore is not immediately subject to the various fluctuations, seasonal trends, etc., which inevitably affect any type of industry; secondly, such diversity attracts and develops a competent working class, because each individual enjoys a maximum opportunity to select the type of work he desires; and thirdly, industrial diversity tends to minimize the possibility of labor disturbances such as have deadlocked business activity in recent years in many cities dependent upon one particular kind of industry.

Adequate proof that Fort Wayne is a fine industrial city may be seen in the fact that a number of the nation's great corporations have located and operate plants in the city. These include the Fort Wayne Works of the General Electric Company; a motor truck manufacturing division of the International Harvester Company; the Western Gas Division of the Koppers Company; the Inca Manufacturing Division of the Phelps-Dodge Copper Products Corporation; and Plants of Allied Mills, Inc., the American Fork & Hoe Company, Boss Manufacturing Company, the Essex Wire Company

of Detroit, Joslyn Manufacturing and Supply Company, Minnesota Linseed Oil Paint Company, Truck Engineering Company, Virginia-Carolina Chemical Corporation, and a number of others.

In addition, a number of firms first organized in Fort Wayne, and still operating here, have developed into corporations of national importance. These include, in particular, the three well-known pump manufacturers—Wayne Pump Company, S. F. Bowser & Company, and the Tokheim Oil Tank and Pump Company—whose products are in use today in countries throughout the world. Others are the General Hosiery Company, Bass Foundry & Machine Company, Rea Magnet Wire Company, Magnavox Company, Ltd., Wayne Knitting Mills, Capehart Corporation, American Steel Dredge Company, L. C. Rastetter & Sons, and a number of other diversified industries.

Principal products manufactured in Fort Wayne include: Amplifying systems, automatic phonographs, baked goods, beer, candies, castings, chairs and tables, cigars, copper wire products, electrical apparatus, equipment and appliances, including demand meters, time relays, coin switches, sewage disposal units, transformers, motors of many sizes, and refrigerating units for domestic and commercial uses; electric signs, dairy equipment, dairy products, display cases, farm tools, fertilizers, foundry products, gas manufacturing equipment, gasoline station equipment, gloves, hosiery, meat packing products, men's and ladies' wearing apparel, mining machinery, mittens, motor trucks, neon signs, oil burners, paint, paper boxes, pistons, plumbing supplies, radio equipment, railroad car wheels, rolling mill products, steam boilers, steel dredges, barges and tugboats, truck bodies, valves, washing machines and ironers, etc.

Fort Wayne's Commercial Firms

Fort Wayne's position as a growing industrial center and its location in the heart of a rich agricultural area have resulted in the establishment in the city of a complete and modern system of commodity distribution through numerous wholesale and jobbing houses and hundreds of retail stores, which bring the products of the nation and the world to the people who live and work in and near Fort Wayne.

According to the latest figures released by the U. S. Bureau of Business Census, there are now located in Fort Wayne a total of 1,620 retail stores, including 584 food stores, 253 restaurants and cafes, 107 apparel stores, 114 automotive agencies, 159 filling stations, 51 furniture stores, 52 lumber, building and hardware firms, 75 drug stores, and more than 200 miscellanous shops. Total annual sales in these stores range from 40 to 50 million dollars. An average of 6,000 persons are employed in retail stores, and payrolls average between five and six million dollars per year.

Fort Wayne has approximately 200 wholesale distributors, including manufacturers' sales branches, agents and brokers. Total sales by these firms average approximately 35 million dollars a year. Approximately 1,700 persons are employed by wholesalers, and wages paid total approximately two and one-half million dollars annually. In addition to serving local retailers, these wholesale houses cover a metropolitan trading area extending 100 miles or more in every direction.

Trade is stimulated in Fort Wayne by numerous special sales events which are sponsored each year by the retail merchants and which attract shoppers to Fort Wayne from throughout the northeastern section of Indiana, western Ohio and southern Michigan. Special parking privileges and other courtesies are extended to these visitors to encourage their return to Fort Wayne on later occasions.

Calhoun Street, extending north and south, is the center of the city's commercial district, which comprises 10 blocks along Calhoun and two blocks to the east and west. General remodelling of buildings, and some new construction, have developed this section in recent years into one of the cleanest and most attractive business districts of any city in the Middle West.

The retail merchants of Fort Wayne operate a Retail Credit Rating Bureau, recognized as one of the finest and most efficiently operated organizations of its kind in the Middle West. Fort Wayne wholesalers have formed, to serve their business, a similar group known as The Fort Wayne Association of Credit Men.

Sales of passenger automobiles constitute an important part of the total volume of business in Fort Wayne and Allen County. Following are figures which show the trend of sales in the County during the past 12 years:

1926.....5,184 cars	1932.....1,482 cars
1927.....4,353 cars	1933.....2,018 cars
1928.....4,974 cars	1934.....2,715 cars
1929.....7,538 cars	1935.....4,707 cars
1930.....4,353 cars	1936.....6,441 cars
1931.....2,828 cars	1937.....7,282 cars

Fort Wayne's Transportation Services

Many years ago Fort Wayne first became recognized as an important American community because of its location as a terminal for water travel and transportation on the St. Mary's, St. Joseph's and Maumee Rivers and the old Wabash and Erie Canal.

Today, although river travel is long outmoded, Fort Wayne continues to hold its position as an important American industrial center because the city has kept pace with progress in transportation, and now enjoys the efficient services of modern steam and electric railroads, motor trucks and buses and a transcontinental airline.

Following is a summary of transportation services available in Fort Wayne:

Pennsylvania Railroad. Main line east-west through Fort Wayne. Passenger and freight service eastbound to Pittsburgh, Philadelphia, Washington and New York City, with intermediate connections to north and south. Westbound service to Chicago and connecting for north and west. Pennsylvania also operates (via old G. R. & I.) from Fort Wayne north to Mackinaw, Mich., and south to Cincinnati.

Wabash Railway. Main line east-west through Fort Wayne. Passenger and freight service northeastward to Toledo, Detroit and Buffalo, there connecting to the east. Westward from Fort Wayne to St. Louis, Des Moines, Council Bluffs and Kansas City, and joining other roads to the west coast.

New York, Chicago and St. Louis Railroad, (Nickel Plate). Main line east-west through Fort

Wayne. Two passenger and freight operations eastward: One directly to Toledo, the other to Cleveland, Erie, Buffalo and the East. Two services westward: One to Chicago and St. Louis, the other to St. Louis via Peoria. Nickel Plate also operates old Lake Erie & Western, offering freight service south out of Fort Wayne to the Erie main line at Muncie, Ind., and on down to Newcastle, Ind.

New York Central Railroad. Freight operations out of Fort Wayne to Waterloo, Indiana; Mina, Ohio, and Toledo, connecting at those points with New York Central main line westward to Chicago or eastward to New York City. Also local freight operations north to Hillsdale, Michigan. Passenger service to Waterloo to east-west main line, and north to Jackson, Michigan, to connect for east and west with Michigan Central Railroad.

Indiana Railroad. An electric line. Operates regular passenger and freight services from Fort Wayne to Indianapolis, Terre Haute and Louisville, Kentucky, connecting with steam roads, trucks and buses at various intermediate points.

Motor Trucks and Buses. A number of interstate bus lines and motor transports operate through Fort Wayne, and provide modern motor service to all points in the United States. In addition, there are complete coach and truck systems covering the Fort Wayne area and operating to other cities in Indiana.

Transcontinental & Western Air, Inc. Provides Fort Wayne with modern air mail, express and passenger service. The city is a regular stop on the east-west transcontinental line, with one flight in each direction each day. Eastbound to Dayton, Columbus, Pittsburgh, Philadelphia and New York City; westbound to Chicago, Kansas City, Albuquerque, Los Angeles and San Francisco.

Fort Wayne's Industrial Sites

Few American cities can offer to manufacturers an industrial development tract comparable to one which has been planned and developed in Fort Wayne in anticipation of the city's growth as an industrial center.

The tract, located just without the southeast section of the city, in Adams Township, comprises several hundred acres of level, well-drained land, ideally situated for an industrial district and completely developed with all facilities used in modern manufacturing operations.

The advantages of the site have been widely recognized, and, within a brief period of years, eight important industries have located plants there. These include a large truck manufacturing plant of the International Harvester Company, the Inca Manufacturing Division of Phelps-Dodge Copper Products Corporation, the General Hosiery Company, Magnavox Company, Ltd., Capehart Corporation, Truck Engineering Company, Rea Magnet Wire Company and the Zollner Machine Works.

Today, a number of the original sites are still available and may be obtained by any responsible manfuacturing firm.

Prices for the land are reasonable, because the ground is owned by the Greater Fort Wayne Development Corporation, which is a civic, non-profit

organization operated for the sole purpose of expanding Fort Wayne as an industrial city.

Manufacturers locating in the tract have at their disposal practically every service and facility required by industry. The section is completely equipped with gas and water mains, electric light and power, telephone service, sewers, a paved road connecting with main streets and highways, a street car line direct to the downtown business district, and a belt line railway providing switching service to all railroads operating through Fort Wayne.

In addition, the great Lincoln Highway borders one end of the district, and provides manufacturers with direct access to the nation's network of highways.

Besides the numerous advantages cited above, it should be pointed out that this industrial development tract is situated just outside the Wayne Township (city) limits, in Adams Township, and that, as a result, industries located there have an even lower tax rate than that paid in Fort Wayne. The city's rate for 1937 payable in 1938 is $2.24 per $100 valuation, whereas the Adams Township rate for the same period is but $1.08.

Further information about these industrial sites may be obtained from the Fort Wayne Chamber of Commerce, which was responsible for the creation and development of the industrial tract. The Chamber organized the Greater Fort Wayne Development Corporation, and has worked with the corporation in bringing to Fort Wayne the eight firms which are now operating in the section.

Fort Wayne's Public Utilities

Light and Power. Fort Wayne's electric light and power are provided by two modern plants, operated by the Indiana Service Corporation, and the City Light and Power Works, a municipal utility. Complete light and power services are furnished by both utilities, and, to guard against possible failure in local plant operations, interconnecting services are available from three major power companies whose transmission lines serve Northern Indiana.

Gas. Gas service is provided in Fort Wayne by the Northern Indiana Public Service Company. The gas used is natural, being piped to Fort Wayne from the natural gas fields of Texas. The Company changed over from manufactured to natural gas late in 1937 and in doing so effected a savings of approximately $185,000 in the annual bills of Fort Wayne's gas consumers.

Telephones. The Home Telephone & Telegraph Company operates all telephone service in Fort Wayne and connects with the Indiana Bell Telephone Company and the American Telephone & Telegraph Company with a consolidated tollboard for long distance transmission to all points in the United States as well as to all world-wide points now generally served by the telephone industry.

Water. The Fort Wayne Water Works, a municipally owned and operated utility, provides complete water service in Fort Wayne. The new Three Rivers Filtration Plant, erected several years ago at a cost of $2,500,000, takes water from the St. Joseph's River above the city, chemically treats and purifies it for use throughout the city. The plant has a capacity of 24,000,000 gallons, and a daily average pumpage of 9,470,700 gallons.

Complete utility rate schedules will be provided, upon request, by the Chamber of Commerce of Fort Wayne.

Fort Wayne's Low Tax Rate

An usually low tax rate is another of Fort Wayne's really outstanding advantages.

The rate for the year 1937, payable in 1938, is $2.24 per $100 of assessed valuation. The rate is divided as follows:

State	$ .15
County	.37
Township	.121
(Includes $.107 for poor relief.)	
Civil City	.634
School City	.89
Library	.075
	$2.24

Fort Wayne's tax rate has been reduced in each of the past five years, and the city's rate is now the lowest of any city in Indiana with a population of more than 25,000. This low tax rate in itself may be regarded as a contributing factor in the successful operation of all of Fort Wayne's industries during recent depression years.

The following comparative figures give adequate proof that the city's tax rate reductions have not been accomplished merely by arbitrarily increasing assessed valuations:

	Rates	*Valuations*
1933	$2.75	$148,219,960.00
1934	2.73	147,178,980.00
1935	2.60	146,367,510.00
1936	2.36	147,005,550.00
1937	2.24	148,500,000.00

Fort Wayne's Radio Stations

Fort Wayne has two radio broadcasting stations —WOWO and WGL—both owned and operated by the Westinghouse Electric Company, of Pittsburgh, Pa. WOWO, known as "Indiana's Most Powerful Broadcasting Station," has a power of 10,000 watts and operates on a frequency of 1160 kilocycles; WGL is a 500-watt station operating on 1370 kilocycles.

Both stations have all-modern equipment and beautifully furnished studios located in the Westinghouse Building, at the intersection of Harrison Street and Washington Boulevard. The two stations are members of the National Broadcasting Company's coast-to-coast networks.

Fort Wayne's Banking Services

Fort Wayne has two national banks, two state banks, and a number of other financial institutions, including one joint stock land bank, an industrial loan and investment company, a Morris Plan bank, two home loan and savings associations and a Federal Savings and Loan Association. Thus, every modern banking service is available to firms and individuals located in Fort Wayne.

Deposits in the four major banks on December 31st, 1937, totalled $47,534,209.15, representing a gain of more than two million dollars in one year and of approximately 12 million dollars since December 31st, 1935. Total resources increased from $50,679,000 at the end of 1936 to $52,980,000 at the close of 1937. The city's major banks are members of the Federal Reserve System and of the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation.

Fort Wayne's Two Newspapers

Fort Wayne has two daily newspapers—The *News-Sentinel*, an evening paper, and the Fort Wayne *Journal-Gazette*, a morning edition, Sundays included. Both papers have been published in Fort Wayne for many years, each being a consolidation of two of the community's pioneer publications. The *News-Sentinel* represents a merger of the Fort Wayne *Sentinel*, which was first printed in 1833, and the Fort Wayne *News*, established in 1874. The *Journal-Gazette* is a consolidation of the Fort Wayne *Gazette*, first published in 1863, and the Fort Wayne *Journal*, established in 1868. The *News-Sentinel* has an average daily circulation of 62,500; the *Journal-Gazette*, 52,000 daily and 43,000 on Sunday.

Lincoln National Life Insurance Co.

Fort Wayne is the home of the Lincoln National Life Insurance Company, one of the largest and most rapidly expanding insurance companies in the United States. Lincoln Life was founded only 33 years ago, in 1905; yet the company now ranks 18th in size among all life insurance firms in the country, with insurance in force totalling $953,696,951.00, as of January 1st, 1938. Lincoln Life occupies a large home office building in Fort Wayne, located on South Harrison Street, covering a full city block opposite the new Post Office and Federal Building. Lincoln Life offers two outstanding attractions to visitors in Fort Wayne—a Lincoln Museum, in the home office building, and a huge bronze statue, "Lincoln, the Hoosier Youth," located on the plaza in front of the building. Each year thousands of people are guests of the company in visits to these now famous attractions.

Fort Wayne's Recreational Attractions

Parks and Playgrounds. Fort Wayne is justly proud of its 16 beautiful parks and playgrounds. These are located conveniently in districts throughout the city, and thus provide the entire populace with ideal places for recreation and relaxation. The total area of parks and playgrounds is 820 acres, valued at $1,600,000. Facilities include pavilions, baseball and softball diamonds, tennis courts, recreational apparatus, swimming pools, picnic tables and benches, and other equipment. During the summer months, all of the playgrounds are in charge of trained supervisors, who direct activities and protect children from injury.

Golf Courses. Three beautiful country clubs and four other golf courses are located in and near Fort Wayne. These offer accommodations for golf which are surpassed by few cities in the country. One of the courses, Foster Park, is municipally owned and operated. The Fort Wayne Country Club is one of the finest courses in the Middle West, having a beautiful clubhouse, watered fairways, large greens, hilly terrain, etc.

Theatres. Fort Wayne has 16 theatres, several of which are among the largest and most beautiful in Indiana. The leading motion picture houses present first-run pictures soon after their release, and one of the theatres, the Shrine Auditorium, offers numerous stage productions, including important "road shows," concerts and recitals, as well as lectures, debates and many other attractions.

The theatres have a total seating capacity of 19,027 persons. Conventions and public meetings of various kinds also are held in the Shrine Auditorium, which seats 1,900, and in the Catholic Community Center Auditorium, which will accommodate 1,200 persons. Gymnasiums in three municipal high schools and Concordia College likewise are available for public events. Seating capacity of these ranges from 2,000 to 3,200 persons.

Lakes and Fishing. Fort Wayne is the gateway to the famous Northern Indiana Lake Region. Within a radius of 50 miles are located 200 beautiful lakes, ranging in area from a few acres to the largest having 3,800 acres. All of these waters, as well as the winding streams tributary to them, offer splendid fishing and every kind of outdoor amusement, all of which makes Northern Indiana an ideal vacation land. Large and small mouth bass, bluegills, perch, crappies and pickerel abound in these lakes, providing real sport for bait and fly casting. There are many beautiful hotels at these lakes, offering accommodations which are reasonably priced and which include bathing, boating, dancing, sailing and other kinds of entertainment. Good paved highways make these resorts easily accessible. Booklets describing Northern Indiana's lakes, giving hotel accommodations and other data, may be obtained upon request from the Chamber of Commerce of Fort Wayne.

Other Recreational Activity. In addition to the recreational activities described above, Fort Wayne offers many other entertainment attractions, including an amusement park, dance halls, skating rinks, trap and skeet shooting ranges, and every type of athletic event.

Fort Wayne's Cultural Institutions

Fort Wayne's citizens take a keen interest in all matters pertaining to education, religion and culture.

Following is a list of educational institutions located in the city:

One Lutheran College.
Three Public High Schools.
Three Catholic High Schools and Academies.
One Lutheran Academy.
Twenty-three Public Grade Schools.
Twenty-two Parochial Grade Schools.
One Bible Training School.
One Business College.
One Technical College.
One University Extension Center.
One Art School.
Museum in Honor of Abraham Lincoln.
Allen County-Fort Wayne Historical Museum.
Four Orphanages and Children's Homes.
One Main Library and Five Branches.
Y. M. C. A. and Y. W. C. A.

Fort Wayne has one of the most efficient public school systems in the United States. The system is governed by a Board of School Trustees, which is appointed by the mayor and which in turn appoints a superintendent of schools. The superintendent is aided in his administration of school affairs by a group of seven department heads, who are named by the superintendent, subject to approval by the Board of Trustees.

Nearly all of the schools are modern, up-to-date buildings with complete facilities including gymnasiums and athletic fields.

Fort Wayne's interest in religious activities is best attested by the fact that 79 churches are located in the city. These include nearly all denominations. Many of the churches are among the largest and most beautiful in Indiana.

Fort Wayne looks after its welfare and charitable work through a Community Chest which supports 19 welfare agencies. The budgets of each agency are studied closely by Chest officials, and each year a city-wide campaign is conducted to obtain funds with which to finance the work of all 19 member agencies. Fort Wayne's citizens appreciate the efficient work of the Chest and give it their generous financial support.

Numerous organizations have been formed to sponsor various kinds of cultural activities. These include the Civic Symphony Orchestra, which presents a series of concerts each year; the Fort Wayne Community Concerts Association, which sponsors each winter a number of recitals by noted musicians and singers; the Fort Wayne Art School Association, which presents exhibits of paintings and sculpture at the Fort Wayne Art School, and the "Old Fort Players," a dramatic club of amateur actors and actresses who produce shows at the Civic Theatre during the winter season.

Fort Wayne has numerous active civic clubs, lodges, societies and fraternal organizations, many of which own and operate modern headquarters and clubrooms.

Included among the organizations which own their own properties are: Masonic Bodies, Shrine, Scottish Rite, Knights of Columbus, American Legion, Elks, Moose, Eagles, Y. M. C. A., Y. W. C. A., Veterans of Foreign Wars, Turners and a number of others.

Civic clubs include: Rotary, Kiwanis, Lions, Junior Chamber of Commerce, Optimist, Quest, Exchange, Altrusa, Fort Wayne Woman's Club, etc.

Fort Wayne's Municipal Airport

Believing that air travel and transportation will play a more and more important part in the future in the nation's business activities, the City of Fort Wayne has sought to keep pace with progress by building and developing one of the finest flying fields in the country.

The field, known as the Smith-Baer Municipal Airport, is owned and operated by the City of Fort Wayne. It is located a few miles north of the city, lying on a flat, open plain, which may be approached with perfect safety from any direction. There are no high buildings in the vicinity, no threatening trees, no telegraph poles, nor any other hazards to flying. In fact, few landing fields in the country are comparable to the broad, clear, level field at the Smith-Bear Airport.

Transcontinental & Western Air, Inc., uses the airport as a regular stop on its coast-to-coast route, and every day the big TWA transport planes flying in and out of the city serve an important function in providing Fort Wayne with the latest and fastest service for travel, mail and express.

Fort Wayne first purchased land for its airport back in 1925, when aviation was still struggling for an existence. One hundred fifty-six acres were purchased at that time at a cost of $38,400. Since then the field has been extended and developed until its present value is estimated conservatively at $700,000. Facilities include two modern hangars, electric boundary lights, electric range lights, revolving beacon, hard-surfaced runways, a tile drainage system, government approved repair station, modern offices, restaurant, sleeping quarters, a paved parking area for automobiles, gas and oil pumping equipment, and meteorological instruments for ascertaining weather conditions.

Fort Wayne--
A Healthful City

Located in a temperate zone which is subject neither to extremely hot nor severely cold weather, Fort Wayne has a number of natural advantages which combine to make the city a healthful place in which to live.

The city has a mean annual temperature of 50.1 degrees Fahrenheit, ranging from a maximum average during July of 73.7 degrees, to a minimum average during January of 26.4 degrees. Total precipitation averages 35.22 inches annually.

The purity of Fort Wayne's water supply is another important factor in keeping Fort Wayne's people healthy. The new Three Rivers Filtration Plant draws water from the St. Joseph's River above the city, subjects it to a series of chemical treatments and filtration processes, and pumps it into the city's mains in a condition meeting the most exacting bacteriological tests. Moreover, the supply is practically unlimited.

Fort Wayne's City Board of Health is doing excellent work in protecting public health by attacking diseases at their source. The Board has a staff of food and milk inspectors who keep a constant check on the farms, dairies, markets, restaurants and stores which produce and distribute the city's food and milk.

Another important phase of the Board's work is its efforts to encourage parents to have young children vaccinated and immunized. Results of this work may be seen in the reports that:

(1) diphtheria cases were reduced to 36 in 1937;

(2) typhoid fever cases declined to four in 1937; and

(3) smallpox cases dropped to but 17 in the five-year period since 1932.

Work of the Board in the current campaign against venereal diseases has received nation-wide recognition.

Fort Wayne's Ideal Location

Outstanding among Fort Wayne's numerous advantages is the city's ideal location in the heart of the great East North Central States.

The city is located in the northeastern section of Indiana, less than 200 miles from the region in Southern Indiana which has been the center of the nation's population for more than 50 years.

Fort Wayne's geographical position has important industrial and commercial advantages because of the city's direct access to sources of raw and semi-finished materials, as well as its proximity to major markets for finished goods.

Manufacturers and wholesalers operating in Fort Wayne are in a position to serve approximately 25,000,000 people within a radius of 300 miles in the richest industrial and agricultural region in the United States.

All the great market centers of the Middle West —Chicago, Detroit, Cleveland, St. Louis, Buffalo, Pittsburgh, Cincinnati, Milwaukee, Columbus, Louisville, Grand Rapids, Indianapolis and Toledo —lie within a few hundred miles of Fort Wayne.

Moreover, nearly all of these great cities may be reached by over-night shipments from Fort Wayne through the modern transportation facilities which serve the city and which are described in detail in other pages of this booklet.

Fort Wayne also is near important sources of supply for raw materials and semi-finished goods. For example, the northwestern section of Indiana is one of the largest iron and steel centers in the world. Adequate supplies of coal are available in southern Indiana and in the adjoining states of Ohio, Illinois and Kentucky. These four states, and Michigan, also offer limestone, lumber, sand and gravel, cement, lead, zinc, clay and many other materials.

Fort Wayne in Brief

AIRPORTS ..... two; total acreage, 310
ALTITUDE ..... 839 feet above sea level
AREA ..... 17.5 square miles
BANKS ..... Number, eight
Two National Banks, Two State Banks
One Joint Stock Land Bank
One Industrial Loan & Investment Company
One Morris Plan Bank
One Federal Savings and Loan Association
Total Deposits in State and National Banks on December 31st, 1937 ..... $47,534,209.15
Total Resources of State and National Banks on December 31st, 1937 ..... $52,980,000.00
Total Bank Clearings, 1937 ..... $60,188,094.88
BUILDING ACTIVITY, 1937 .....
..... Number of Permits, 1,594
Total construction costs $2,565,322.00
Number of new houses built 220
CHURCHES ..... All Denominations, 79
CLIMATE
Mean Annual Temperature ..... 53.8 Degrees F.
Average Annual Rainfall ..... 28.25 Inches
ELECTRICITY .....
..... One Municipal, One Privately-owned Utility
Number of Consumers 38,384
Annual Consumption (1937):
Residential ..... 25,729,816 KWH
Commercial ..... 21,606,449 KWH
Industrial ..... 110,104,713 KWH
Municipal Departments ..... 7,578,646 KWH
GAS ..... One Privately-owned Utility
Miles of Mains 283
Number of Consumers 27,170
Consumption (1937) ..... 1,262,229,800 cu. ft.
HIGHWAYS ..... Nine Major Roads Through City
U. S. Roads ..... Nos. 24, 27, 30 and 33
State Roads ..... Nos. 1, 2, 3, 14 and 427
HISTORY
Old Indian village. First settled by the French in 1686. Scene of intermittent warfare be-

392458

tween Indians, French, British and Colonial Americans for period of 100 years. Fort Wayne Stockade dedicated October 22nd, 1794. First Post Office 1820. First lodge, F. & A. M., November 10th, 1823. Incorporated town 1829; city in 1840.

HOMES 29,021

HOSPITALS ..... Six; Rooms, 854

HOTELS ..... 27; Rooms, 1,850

LOCATION ..... Latitude 41.5°; Longitude 85.10°

LIBRARIES .....

..... One Main, Five Branches; 241,244 volumes

MUSEUMS ..... Two

Lincoln Museum in home office building of Lincoln National Life Insurance Company. Allen County-Fort Wayne Museum located in old-fashioned homestead in Swinney Park.

NEWSPAPERS ..... Two Dailies

The *Journal-Gazette* ..... A Morning Paper

The *News-Sentinel* ..... An Evening Paper

PARKS 16

POPULATION ..... 1930 U. S. Census: 114,946; Estimated 1938: 123,500

Nationalities: 93 per cent native white; 5 per cent foreign-born white; 2 per cent colored.

Number of foreign-born white by countries:

Germany	2,889	Austria	85
England	321	Scotland	85
Canada	307	Sweden	77
Greece	294	Netherlands	39
Poland	287	Hungary	38
Italy	230	Czechoslovakia	29
Russia	169	Northern Ireland	27
Irish Free State	151	Yugoslavia	27
Rumania	151	Lithuania	15
Switzerland	142	Belgium	8
France	126	All others	232

POSTAL RECEIPTS, 1937 ..... $987,334.16

PUBLIC SAFETY

Fire Department: 153 men; 27 pieces of equipment; 11 station houses. Police Department: 129 men; 23 pieces of motor equipment; one police station. Signal Department: 14 men; five pieces of equipment; one station.

RADIO .....Two Broadcasting Stations
WOWO Power..10,000 watts at 1160 kilocycles
WGL Power.....500 watts at 1370 kilocycles
Both stations members of the NBC networks

RECREATION

Golf courses, seven. Parks, 16; total acreage, 820; valuation, $1,600,000. Theatres, 16; seating capacity, 19,027. Fort Wayne is the gateway to the famous Northern Indiana Lakes, which offer excellent fishing, swimming, boating and other amusements.

RETAIL

Retail outlets, 1,620; average annual sales, $45,000,000; annual payrolls, $5,500,000.

RIVERS ..... Three
City founded "where three rivers meet": St. Mary's and St. Joseph's Rivers join to form the Maumee.

SEWERS.....Miles of Mains, 203

SCHOOLS.....Public, 27; parochial, 24

TAXES.....1937 Rate, $2.24 per $100 valuation
Assessed Valuation, 1937.....$148,500,000.00
Bonded Indebtedness:
Civil City (Dec. 31st, 1937)....2,508,600.00
School City (Dec. 31st, 1937)..2,133,000.00

TELEPHONES....35,404 in service on Jan. 1, 1938

TRANSPORTATION

Five steam railroads: Pennsylvania, New York Central, Wabash, Nickel Plate, and Lake Erie & Western. One electric railway: Indiana Railroad. One airline: Transcontinental & Western Air, Inc. Numerous interstate and intrastate truck and bus lines.

UTILITIES (see gas, water, electricity, etc.)

WATER

Miles of mains.....270
Hardness of water: 5.53 grains per gallon (1937). Supply: Municipal Water Works. Capacity: 24,000,000 gallons per day. Average pumpage: 9,470,700 gallons daily (1937). Consumers: 28,280.

WHOLESALE

Wholesale outlets, 201; average annual sales, $35,000,000; annual payrolls, $2,500,000.